

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 3681

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNIDO, OCON, EAID, OGEN, UN

SUBJECT: UNIDO DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REF: STATE 98932

1. DURING CALL ON UNIDO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR APRIL 28 ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS RAISED QUESTION OF APPOINTMENT OF QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL FROM A GROUP B COUNTRY AS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO FILL POST ESTABLISHED BY 30TH GA AND THEREBY GIVE UNIDO NEEDED ADDED STRENGTH AT TOP LEVEL OF MANAGEMENT.

2. KHANE MADE CLEAR THAT, BECAUSE ANY APPOINTMENT TO THE POST COULD BE EXPECTED TO TOUCH OFF A POLITICAL HASSLE, HE DID NOT INTEND TO FILL THE POSITION. SUGGESTIONS BY THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN GENERAL ACQUIESCENCE TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE NATIONAL

OF A SMALL, PERHAPS NEUTRAL, GROUP B COUNTRY HAD NO APPARENT EFFECT ON KHANE'S VIEWS. DURING THE DISCUSSION KHANE, REFERRING TO THE FACT THAT SWEDEN HAD PROPOSED RISHOLM (DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION) FOR POST OF DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NOTED THAT IN ANY CASE IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO GIVE THE POST TO THE MOST JUNIOR OF HIS DIRECTORS (RISHOLM HAVING COME ON BOARD ONLY A FEW MONTHS AGO) AND
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THAT HIS SENIOR STAFF MEMBERS HAD VOICED THEIR
OPPOSITION TO ANY SUCH MOVE.

3. KHANE SAID THAT, IN LIGHT OF THE POLITICAL
PROBLEM, HE INTENDED TO REQUEST SYG TO RENEW THE
PROPOSAL FOR THREE DEPUTIES TO THE 31ST GA.
KHANE ADDED THAT HE HOPED TO PURSUADE ACABQ TO
RECONSIDER ITS POSITION ON THIS MATTER AND ASKED
WHETHER THE US COULD BE HELPFUL IN THIS REGARD. THE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY NOTED THAT, FOR THE US GOVERNMENT
TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THREE DEPUTY POSTS,
IT WOULD HAVE TO BE CONVINCED OF THEIR NEED ON
PROGRAM/MANAGEMENT GROUNDS AND THAT KHANE COULD NOT
COUNT ON ITS SUPPORT FOR HIS RENEWED ATTEMPT
SOLELY BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL PROBLEM WHICH HE FACED.

4. IN SEPARATE TALK WHICH US PERM REP HAD WITH SWEDISH

REP TO IDB-X (OSVALD) ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF THE
POST OF DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LATTER DREW ATTENTION
TO POINT THAT RISHOLM WAS NOT AN "OFFICIAL" CANDIDATE OF
SWEDISH GOVERNMENT. SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAD
SIMPLY DRAWN WALDHEIM'S AND KHANE'S ATTENTION
TO RISHOLM'S QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POST. OSVALD
ALSO STATED THAT AT THIS JUNCTURE SWEDEN HAD NO
INTENTION OF SUBMITTING ANY OTHER CANDIDATES.
STIBARVY

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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